



## VMHA Dressing Room Phone Violation Policy

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### Background:

In alignment with *Hockey Canada*, *BC Hockey*, and *Vancouver Island Amateur Hockey Association (VIAHA)* guidelines regarding player safety, privacy, and respect in the dressing room environment, the Victoria Minor Hockey Association (VMHA) is committed to upholding strict standards that protect the well-being of all participants.

Hockey Canada's Dressing Room Policy and BC Hockey's Conduct Management standards clearly prohibit the use of cellular phones and similar devices in dressing rooms due to concerns regarding inappropriate photography, privacy violations, and potential misconduct.

### Policy Statement:

**Effective Immediately:** *No phones or recording devices of any kind shall be permitted in the hands of any player, team official, parent, volunteer, or individual inside a dressing room at any time.*

There are **no exceptions** to this policy. Team officials may collect and hold devices for safekeeping or ensure they are secured outside the dressing room or inside a purse, backpack, bag or other.

### Violations & Penalties:

- **First Offence:** \$100 fine issued to the team.
- **Second Offence:** \$500 fine issued to the team.
- **Third Offence:** One-week suspension of the entire team from all VMHA-sanctioned activities (games, practices, meetings, events).

### **Failure to Pay Fines:**

- Fines must be paid within **10 business days** of notice being issued.
- **Failure to pay** will result in an **immediate suspension of all team activities** until payment is received.
- Unpaid fines may also result in the **team being ineligible for tournaments, playoffs, or future registration** until the balance is cleared.

### **Continued Non-Compliance:**

- Any further violations or refusal to adhere to this policy will result in a **mandatory review by the VMHA Disciplinary Committee**, which may impose additional sanctions up to and including:
  - Additional team suspensions
  - Removal of team officials
  - Player suspensions
  - Expulsion from the Association

### **Reporting & Enforcement:**

- **Anonymous Reporting:** Individuals can report violations via the VMHA anonymous reporting form or by emailing the Safety Director at [safety@victoriaminorhockey.ca](mailto:safety@victoriaminorhockey.ca)
- **Spot Checks:** Random checks will be conducted by the Safety Director or designated volunteer members throughout the season.

### **Fine Approval Procedure:**

To ensure fairness and transparency, **any fine issued under this policy must be approved by and in accordance with the VMHA disciplinary policy.**

### **Responsibility:**

All team officials are responsible for communicating and enforcing this policy. Ignorance of the rule is not a valid excuse for non-compliance.